



Patent

Docket No.: 53208USA1A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Thomas L. Wood
 Serial No.: 08/806,186
 Filed: February 25, 1997
 For: PROGRESSIVELY
 PERFORATED TAPE ROLL

Group Art Unit: 1314

Examiner: J. Davis

Handwritten initials and signatures:
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 9/26/97
 [Signature]

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

September 12, 1997

Signed:

Charles D. Levine
 Charles D. Levine, Reg. No. 32,477

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The Office Action dated June 25, 1997 and the cited references have been reviewed and, in view of the amendments and the failure of the prior art, Applicant submits that all of the claims are in allowable condition. Claims 1-11 are currently pending. Claim 10 is allowed.

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The Invention

The claimed invention is a length of tape that has a first longitudinal end, a second longitudinal end, a first side edge, and a second side edge. The tape includes a backing layer and an adhesive layer on the backing layer. The tape is formable into a roll having a plurality of wraps.

A plurality of lines of perforations extend across at least most of the width of the tape between the first and second side edges to separate the tape into sheets. The sheets have progressively increasing lengths from the first end to the second end such that, when the sheets are wound into a roll, each sheet is longer than the sheet underneath it. The outermost sheet covers all of the lines of perforations of the previous sheets. The line of perforations that defines the trailing end of the